

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 AID-05 IGA-02 MC-02 DODE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 EB-07 OMB-01 AF-06

ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 AS-01 /089 W

----- 008381

R 231647Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4889

CONFIDENTIAL ROME 18738

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, IT, IN, LI, BL, PE, KE, NI, RP, TU, GR

SUBJECT: ITALIAN REQUEST FOR STATUS REPORT ON APC THIRD COUNTRY

APPROVAL REQUESTS

REFS: A) STATE 187357; B) STATE 237298; C) ROME 9158;
D) ROME 5653; E) HOPPER/MOEN LETTER OF 6 AUGUST 1975;
F) STATE 223695

1. ITALIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE SENT MEMO TO THE MAAR REQUESTING STATUS REPORT ON REQUESTS BY OTO-MELARA TO ENTER INTO FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS FOR SALE OF US LICENSES M-113 MODEL APC'S TO THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES: INDIA, PHILLIPINES, KENYA, BOLIVIA, PERU, LIBERIA, AND TURKEY. MISSION INFORMED IMOD THAT SALE TO LIBERIA HAD BEEN DISAPPROVED, SALE TO TURKEY PROVISIONALLY APPROVED, AND THAT EMBASSY WOULD ENQUIRE CONCERNING THE OTHERS.

2. SUBSEQUENTLY MAAG OFFICER MADE ROUTINE INSPECTION VISIT TO OTO-MELARA HEADQUARTERS AND PLANT IN LA SPEZIA. HE RECEIVED SIMILAR REQUEST FOR STATUS REPORT. OTO MELARA'S LIST INCLUDED A REQUEST TO SELL FIVE HUNDRED UNITS TO NIGERIA AND 200 TO KUWAIT FOR WHICH THE MISSION HAS NO RECORD OF GOI'S EVER SUBMITTING A FORMAL REQUEST TO USG. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT EITHER OTO MELARA REPS OR ITALIAN MILITARY ATTACHES SUMMITTED REQUEST DIRECTLY IN WASHINGTON.

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OTO'S LIST ALSO INCLUDED THE GREEK REQUEST FOR 340 UNITS

WHICH HAD BEEN TENTATIVELY APPROVED VIA STATE 223695.
SINGLE CONDITION IN THAT MESSAGE WAS THAT GOI WAS
TO INFORM USG WHEN NEGOTIATIONS ENTERED FIRM CONTRACT
STAGE. THIS CONDITION WAS EXPLAINED TO MFA AND MOD IN SEP-
ERATE MEMORANDA DATED OCTOBER 1, 1975. ON THE OTHER HAND,
OTO'S LIST DID NOT INCLUDE THE REQUEST FOR INDIA WHICH STILL
APPEARS ON THE MOD LIST DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH ONE ABOVE.
INDIA CASE (SEE REFTEL A) SIMILAR WITH EXCEPTION THAT GOI WAS
INFORMED THAT USG WAS PREPARED TO CONSIDER THE REQUEST UPON
RECEIPT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM ITALIANS RE SPECIFICITY
OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE INDIANS. THIS INFORMATION WAS PASSED
TO THE MFA IN AUGUST AND WE HAVE HEARD NOTHING FROM GOI ON
EITHER THE GREEK OR INDIAN REQUEST IN THE INTERIM.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING AN UP-DATE ON STATUS
OF ALL REQUESTS CITED ABOVE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NONALIGNED NATIONS, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, MILITARY SALES, TRACKED VEHICLES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 DEC 1975
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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